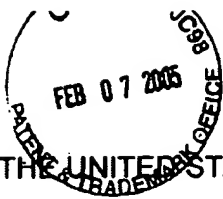


P21149.A05



*Entered with RCE
of 3/15/05*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/891,165 Confirmation No.: 1380
Applicant : Shinichi SATO et al. Docket No.: P21149
Filed : June 26, 2001 Customer No.: 7055
Examiner: HUNG, YUBIN
Group Art Unit: 2625
For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING
METHOD

*me
3/25/05*

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In response to the Final Official Action dated December 6, 2004, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set to expire on March 7, 2005 (March 6, 2005 falling on a Sunday), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the drawings begin on page 8 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.